

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 157928  
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /011 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:RPERRY:DH  
APPROVED BY AF/S:DPETTERSON  
AF/S:DKEOGH  
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION  
NO DISTRIBUTION OUTSIDE AF

-----092657 072146Z /65

R 072041Z JUL 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 157928

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, BC

SUBJECT: BOTSWANA MILITARY ASSISTANCE

1. DEPT. IS REVIEWING BOTSWANA'S REQUEST FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE. WE MAY REQUEST PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION MAKING BOTSWANA ELIGIBLE FOR FMS CASH OR CREDIT SALES. A DECISION TO SEEK A PD COULD BE FOLLOWED BY A DECISION TO PROVIDE FINANCING FOR NON-LETHAL EQUIPMENT.

2. HOWEVER, WE NEED ANSWERS TO SEVERAL KEY QUESTIONS BEFORE PRESENTING CASE TO DECISION MAKERS. IF WE PROVIDE CREDITS FOR 10-15 OF TOTAL REQUIREMENTS, WHERE WOULD BOTSWANA GO FOR REMAINDER? IS THE UK OR CHINA THE MOST LIKELY SOURCE? WHAT TERMS WOULD OTHER DONORS MOST LIKELY OFFER: - CASH, CREDITS, OR GRANT? WHAT  
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WILL BE THE POLITICAL EFFECT ON BOTSWANA, DOMESTICALLY AND IN RELATION TO ITS NEIGHBORS, IF CHINA PROVIDES ARMS?

3. SHOULD THE US CONSIDER PROVIDING UP TO \$7 MILLION FOR EQUIPMENT POSSIBLY INCLUDING SOME LETHAL ITEMS? (PROGRAMS UNDER \$7 MILLION CAN BE ARRANGED WITHOUT

FURTHER CONSULTATIONS WITH CONGRESS, ONCE A PD HAS BEEN

GRANTED). CAN GOB COME UP WITH CASH FOR COMMERCIAL  
PURCHASES IN US; AND IF SO HOW MUCH?

4. WHAT WOULD BE THE EFFECT OF TELLING GOB THAT CASH  
PURCHASES ARE MORE EXPEDITIOUS, AND THAT WE ARE PLANNING  
AN INCREASE IN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE?

5. IN THE WAKE OF FAILURE BY MOST DONORS TO PROVIDE  
ADDITIONAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO BOTSWANA FOLLOWING  
THE FARAH REPORT, IS BOTSWANA REASSESSING LIKELIHOOD OF  
WESTERN MILITARY AID? VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Review Markings:**  
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